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condition, giving no history of syphilitic infection, but responding positively to Wasserman test, with a single dose of diarsenol. The patients very soon begin to gain in weight and their general tone improves.

3. The combined use of mercury and diarsenol has given best results in securing a negative Wasserman plus relief from all symptoms. From this mixed treatment 37 per cent negative reports were secured. The most practicable method of giving this treatment is in series of inunctions of blue ointment, an inunction daily for five weeks; then a rest of one or two weeks; then a series of intra-venous injections of diarsenol—one each week for five weeks. The patient is then allowed to rest over a period of two or three weeks and the same treatment is begun again. This method must, of course, be varied in different individuals.

After the most careful and intensive treatment resulting in a negative Wasserman we have had cases show later signs of tertiary syphilis, as shown by the case of a woman of 27, with whom we began treatment in the secondary stage two years ago. After treatment for one year and a half with mercury and diarsenol, she gave a negative Wasserman. Three months later she came to clinic with tertiary syphilitic lesions and a positive Wasserman. An examination of the blood six months or a year after all treatment has been stopped has served as our standard of cure.

From this study the following conclusions may be drawn:

1. Among the cases reported here there were 4.7 per cent in primary stage, 59.5 per cent secondary stage and 38.8 per cent in tertiary stage.

2. In the treatment of the primary stage of syphilis the arsenical preparations are the most effective. In the treatment of the secondary and tertiary stages combined use of mercury and arsenic gives best results, but mercury alone in the tertiary stage gave better results than diarsenol alone.

3. Hope of cure may rarely be offered to the patient under three years, and even then it is likely that a positive Wasserman may return.

4. A negative Wasserman during course of treatment means only that and diarsenol, who gave a negative Wasserman. Three months later she

5. Intensive treatment during the period of latency is important in order to prevent parasyphilitic conditions.

Forty-seven per cent of the total population of the reformatory is syphilitic.—Elizabeth A. Sullivan, M. D., Reformatory for Women, Framingham, Mass.

### **Report of the Committee (San Francisco) for the Advancement of Medico-Psychological Examinations for Adult and Juvenile Delinquents.**

#### **OBJECTS**

1. To investigate the feasibility of establishing Medico-Psychological laboratories, in conjunction with adult and juvenile courts.

2. To determine on the staff and equipment of such laboratories, the methods of recording data and disposing of cases.

3. To ascertain the value of such laboratories to municipalities.

4. After determining for itself the social necessity for the Medico-Psychological laboratories, then to seek ways and means to stimulate public interest in the project.

5. To deal with the problems presented by the mentally and nervously

unfit members of the community in order that the most dangerous may be eliminated from among the possibilities of menace, and in order that the least harmful may be adjusted to environment.

6. The scientific diagnosis, registration and research of mental deficiency and nervous diseases, and the detention of the sufferers, are the principal aims of this committee, and in carrying out this purpose the following plan should be developed:

- (a) All persons found asocial, actually or potentially, as a result of suspected mental defects or nervous diseases should be referred to a municipal or county psychopathic clinic by the department or officer in whose custody they may be.
- (b) In this plan are embraced methods of examining school children suspected of being abnormal mentally or nervously (nervously unstable).

9. Prophylactic criminology in the examination of school children. Real prophylaxis involves recognition of all biological defects in the individual at an early period in his development.

10. The accumulation of data on all of the above and the development of the very best plan or scheme possible, for prophylactic criminology and the subsequent education of all concerned as to the necessity for the proper and legal adoption of this or some similar scheme for development of psychopathic laboratories in conjunction with our adult and juvenile courts, and school system.

Meetings were held and officers elected and special and sub-committees appointed to put into effect the objects of this general committee. It was decided to secure information concerning the economic value and costs of Medico-Psychopathic clinics.

The special committee submitted the following report:

I.—(1) The purpose of the committee being to advance Medico-Psychological examinations, it is therefore recommended that a psychopathic clinic be established which will conduct a thorough psychiatric, neurological, psychological, sociological, serological, and general medical examination in all felony cases.

(2) That research be instituted into the causes of crime and the prevention thereof.

(3) That the clinic furnish to the courts and to the chief of police a report embodying complete diagnosis, prognosis, and brief summary of the case, based entirely on actual facts, and observation of the individual examined, in order,

- (a) That prisoners may be confined in proper institutions for treatment or care when necessary, and not sent to jail, where the mental condition is made worse;
- (b) That prisoners suffering from certain types of mental diseases may be committed to hospitals for permanent cure, and not tried in criminal courts for crime;
- (c) That certain types of individuals who can never make good on probation or parole may be committed to penal institutions for the longest period of time allowed by law, which will tend to do away with the old system of arresting the same individual a great number of times, and will lessen the labor of probation and parole officers, as well as that of the courts and the police officers. And

(4) That the clinic offer suggestions for vocational guidance of prisoners who have special abilities, or who may be suffering from special disabilities—to the end of conserving human energy and directing it into lines that contribute to the happiness of the community.

II.—We recommend that San Francisco be selected as the city in which we should urge the establishment of a psychopathic clinic.

III.—The laboratory shall be supplied with necessary equipment.

The staff shall consist of the following specialists: Psychiatrist, neurologist, psychologist, physician, ophthalmologist, social worker, stenographer.

IV.—We further recommend:

- (a) That a committee of three be appointed from the general committee to secure the voluntary services of the above staff.
- (b) That a committee of three be appointed from the general committee, to secure the equipment noted in III and to secure the necessary permission from the proper authorities to conduct the examinations.
- (c) That a committee of three be appointed from the general committee, which shall have for purpose the dissemination of general information (among those charged with responsibility of law enforcement) concerning the relation of mental peculiarities and abnormalities and nervous and mental diseases to crime.

At the last meeting of the general committee the sub-committees reported:

1. Some of the most prominent persons specializing in general medicine, neurology, psychiatry and psychology have signified their willingness to begin work in the near future.

2. Well lighted and sufficiently equipped rooms have been secured for the staff. The committee has also secured the consent of San Francisco officials to conduct Medico-Psychological examinations. Arrangements have been made for the dissemination of general information (among those charged with responsibility of law enforcement) concerning the relation of mental diseases to crime.

Despite many discouragements and notwithstanding the great amount of work entailed, your committee has found considerable pleasure in developing the work and has had the active co-operation of laymen, officials, and those of scientific attainments.

It is a source of considerable gratification that Medico-Psychological clinics have been established in the following places: Alameda, Berkeley, Oakland, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. We take pleasure in announcing also that our hopes for a San Francisco clinic to examine adult delinquents are soon to be realized.

The individuals who have promised to do the work in San Francisco have not as yet reported any organization to the committee, but have agreed to establish a clinic and act as voluntary workers for a length of time sufficient to demonstrate to the authorities of this state and to those interested in other states, the advantages or disadvantages, or both, of such clinics.

The scope of the work in San Francisco will be very great; it involves for a period of not less than three months Medico-Psychological examinations of all adult felony cases. Inasmuch as this will involve the examinations of approximately one hundred individuals each month, considerable expense will, of necessity, be attached to this work. While the persons agreeing to make the examinations are of the highest scientific attainments and are giving their

services voluntarily it must be understood that experienced clerical help will be necessary. Also certain materials and equipment will have to be paid for, and undoubtedly the money can be raised in San Francisco. The work of the committee has just begun. It is hoped that Medico-Psychological clinics will be established in all the prominent cities of California; furthermore, and most important of all, these Medico-Psychological clinics, with their trained staffs and organizations, will be of assistance to the government, acting as nuclei for larger and more elaborate organizations which will assist in taking care of the nervous and mental cases returned from the "front." These organizations could have attached to their staffs experts in vocational guidance, individuals who, by their knowledge of the need of the various vocations, would be enabled to advise as to the proper vocation for invalided soldiers.

The value of such organization as above, if there be proper co-operation, is beyond our conception.

Respectfully submitted by the committee:

RABBI MARTIN A. MEYER, San Francisco, Cal.

MR. JACOBI, Chief of Police, Alameda, Cal.

MR. AUGUST VOLLMER, Chief of Police, Berkeley, Cal.

JUDGE BEASLY, Superior Court, San Jose, Cal.

MR. J. A. JOHNSTON, Warden of California State Prison, San Quentin, Cal.

MR. H. E. KNOLLIN, 3103 Summit Street, Oakland, Cal.

MR. O. F. SNEDIGAR, Probation Officer, Oakland, Cal.

(Mr. Wood.)

MR. LEWIS M. TERMAN, Stanford University, Palo Alto, Cal.

MR. L. D. COMPTON, Probation Officer, Oakland, Cal.

MR. B. H. PENDLETON, State Board of Charities and Corrections, Oakland, Cal.

MR. W. H. NICHOLS, Hall of Justice, San Francisco, Cal.

DR. JAU DON BALL, Oakland, Cal.

DR. PAUL JEROME ANDERSON, Oakland, Cal.

DR. H. G. THOMAS, Oakland, Cal.

DR. LILLIEN MARTIN, San Francisco, Cal.

#### COURTS—LAWS

**Constitutionality of Act Authorizing Operations for Prevention of Procreation in New York.** (Decision handed down in the Supreme Court, March 5, 1918.) Frank Osborn vs. Lemon Thomson, Charles H. Andrews and William J. Wansboro, composing the Board of Examiners of Feeble-Minded, Criminals and Defectives.

Rudd, J.—Chapter 445 of the Laws of 1912 is an act amending the Public Health Law by adding section 19 thereto, in relation to operations for the prevention of procreation. It provides, in substance, as follows:

1. The appointment of a Board of Examiners, consisting of one surgeon, one neurologist and one practitioner of medicine, to be known as the Board of Examiners of Feeble-Minded, Criminals and Other Defectives.

2. Making it the duty of this board to examine into the mental and physical condition and the record and family history of the feeble-minded, epileptic, criminals and other defectives confined as inmates in the several